

Wednesday, June 17, 2015

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### **Albuquerque Wildlife Federation & Amigos Bravos to conduct ecological restoration project at Midnight Meadows**

QUESTA- Albuquerque Wildlife Federation (AWF) is teaming with Amigos Bravos of Taos to host a weekend-long volunteer project, June 19-June 21, at Midnight Meadows in the Carson National Forest near Questa, NM. Volunteers from both groups will be working to improve integrity of streams and wetlands in the area via repairs to enclosure fencing, planting, and inventory for potential future restoration. The weekend project marks the first time AWF and Amigos Bravos have conducted restoration work in the Midnight Meadows site since 2007.

“We’re very excited to get back to this beautiful spot in the Sangre de Christo Mountains and update our work to protect the wetlands,” said Phil Carter, Project Committee Member of AWF. “The Carson National Forest contains some of the most vital watersheds in New Mexico and ones that affect the entire state’s ecological health.”

As part of the weekend volunteer project, the groups will offer camping opportunities with catered breakfast, a potluck and catering for Saturday’s dinner, and refreshments. In 2015, the Midnight Meadows project is one event of AWF’s annual series of monthly volunteer ecological projects, held from March to October at various sites around the state.

The project site has been identified as one of eight priority locations by the Taos-based nonprofit Amigos Bravos, which advocates for the integrity of New Mexico’s rivers and watersheds. “Midnight Meadows is one of our eight wetland gems in the Carson National Forest,” said Rachel Conn, Executive Director of Amigos Bravos. “We’re working to grant these sites special protection during the ongoing Forest Service planning process.”

For more information about Amigos Bravos’ *Rio Grande Wetland Gems Project* and restoration work, visit <http://amigosbravos.org/on-the-ground-restoration> or call (575) 758-3874. If you would like to get involved or learn more about this and other Albuquerque Wildlife Federation volunteer projects, visit abq.nmwildlife.org or call (505) 463-0125.

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